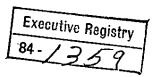
## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON



# **CABINET AFFAIRS STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

Date: 3/15/84		r:		·	
Subject: Cabinet Council on Food and Agriculture Minutes:  February 24, 1984					
ALL CABINET MEMBERS  Vice President State Treasury Defense Attorney General	Action	30000000 R 3	CEA CEQ OSTP	Action	200000 <b>3</b>
Interior Agriculture Commerce Labor HHS HUD Transportation Energy Education Counsellor OMB UN USTR		ad <b>g</b> aaa <mark>aaaa</mark> aa	Baker Deaver Darman (For WH Staffing) Jenkins Mc Farlane Svahn  CCCT/Gupn	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	१ ०००००विष्विष्व
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REMARKS:				-	

Attached for your information are the minutes of the February 24, 1984 meeting of the Cabinet Council on Food and Agriculture.

**RETURN TO:** 

☐ Craig L. Fuller Assistant to the President for Cabinet Affairs

☐ Katherine Anderson ☐ Tom Gibson

□ Don Clarey

☑ Larry Herbolsheimer

DCI **EXEC** 

**Associate Director** 

Office of Cabinet Affairs

Z-300)

456-2823

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

#### WASHINGTON

## CABINET COUNCIL ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

### February 24, 1984

Participants: Block, Lyng, Feldstein, McCormack, Leonard, Lesher, Porter, Wright, Khedouri, Baroody, Brown, Hogate, Herbolsheimer, and Ms. Gall.

CM453. Mr. Block provided a brief summary of current conditions in agriculture and the prospects for the farming community in the months to come.

Mr. Block explained that, in keeping with the President's mandate to review and assess food and agriculture policies and programs, he had appointed a Cabinet Council Working Group on Future Food and Agriculture Policy and had directed it to secure public input into the decision making process and to prepare a list of policy options for Cabinet Council consideration.

Mr. Lyng, the chairman of the Working Group, described the proposed process for carrying out the tasks assigned to the Working Group. One aspect of the proposed process -- a series of public listening sessions to be conducted by USDA -- raised concern among some of those present.

Mssrs. Baroody and Khedouri expressed concern that listening sessions would provide opportunities for critics to disparage our agricultural policies. They stated that even with the most careful preparation, USDA could not control how the media would portray the sessions and the Administration.

Mssrs. Block, Lyng, Wright, Porter, and Leonard stated that the listening sessions were an integral part of the process in that they shielded the Administration from the attack that farm policy was being made behind closed doors. They acknowledged that there was some risk to holding public listening sessions in an election year, but they were convinced that the sessions could be conducted in a way to minimize the possibility of bad publicity.

Mr. Khedouri suggested that USDA conduct a couple of listening sessions and then assess their usefulness before proceeding with additional sessions. There was unanimous agreement that this was the best way to proceed.

Mr. Brown requested that the Working Group look into two subjects: long-term weather forecasting and the use of food as a positive tool for supporting foreign policy.